[illegible]

S E C R E T

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[illegible]

[illegible] Dec 1963

[illegible]

PRIORITY MUNI
ROUTINE

[illegible] HAMB OSLO [illegible] [illegible] TUNI MANI [illegible] HEID PARI CAIR ACCA [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] ATHE JIDD LEOP [illegible] MEXI GEVA ANKA [illegible] [illegible] SING QUIT
[illegible] LISB ROME [illegible] ALGI MELB OKIE FRAN LAND VIEN DHAH [illegible]
KAGU NARO BAGH [illegible] TPLI [illegible] RIOD KNGS SJAN ADDI

PRIAND

WORLD BRIEF

(NOFORN IN SLANTS. REMAINING INFO RELEASABLE TO LIAISON.)

1. BERLIN: THE COMMUNISTS VIEW AS "OFFICIAL" THE TALKS BETWEEN EAST AND WEST BERLIN NEGOTIATORS WHICH ACHIEVED THE AGREEMENT ON CHRISTMAS PASSES AND CONSIDER THEM A BOOST TO MOSCOW'S "FREE CITY" PROPOSAL FOR WEST BERLIN. WILLY BRANDT, ON THE OTHER HAND, REGARDS THEM AS ONLY "TECHNICAL" AND AS NO SETBACK TO HIS STATURE IN WEST GERMAN POLITICS.

2. YUGOSLAVIA: //TITO IS APPARENTLY NO LONGER DEEPLY INVOLVED IN ADMINISTRATION OF YUGOSLAV AFFAIRS. HE HAS EXHIBITED LACK OF KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF A NUMBER OF FOREIGN POLICY ISSUES AND HAS BEEN DIVESTING HIMSELF OF RESPONSIBILITIES. TWO RESPONSIBLE OFFICIALS HAVE EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT HIS FACULTIES HAVE DIMMED //

3. NORTH VIETNAM: HEAVY PROPAGANDA EMPHASIS ON THE THIRD ANNIVERSARY OF THE NATIONAL FRONT FOR THE LIBERATION OF SOUTH VIETNAM

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(PAGE TWO)

SUGGESTS A GROWING CONFIDENCE IN HANOI THAT INSURGENTS CAN SUSTAIN AND IMPROVE THEIR POSITION DESPITE US BACKING OF THE SOUTH VIET-NAMESE GOVERNMENT. (CONF)

4. CUBA: COASTAL DEFENSE CRUISE MISSILES ~~NOW~~ (REPORTEDLY) ARE PART OF THE CUBAN ARTILLERY FORCES, [redacted]. CUBAN INVOLVEMENT IN THE SOVIET-DOMINATED AIR DEFENSE SYSTEM IS ALSO INCREASING. A SOVIET SO-1-CLASS SUBCHASER HAS ARRIVED IN CUBAN WATERS AND TWO OTHERS ARE PROBABLY EN ROUTE.

5. USSR: KHRUSHCHEV'S LONG-RANGE PROGRAM FOR DEVELOPMENT OF THE SOVIET CHEMICAL INDUSTRY IS TO BE ACCOMPANIED BY RETRENCHMENT IN OTHER PARTS OF THE ECONOMY DURING THE NEXT TWO YEARS. HOUSING, CONSUMER SERVICES, AND SOME HEAVY INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION ARE TO BE AFFECTED, AND IT SEEMS LIKELY THAT THERE WILL BE A SLOWING IN THE RATE AT WHICH MILITARY EXPENDITURES HAVE INCREASED SINCE 1960.

6. ITALY: DOUBTS ABOUT THE MORO GOVERNMENT'S VIABILITY HAVE SUBSIDED SOMEWHAT AS A RESULT OF STRONG VOTE OF CONFIDENCE IT RECEIVED ON 17 DEC. NENNI'S AUTHORITY HAS BEEN STRENGTHENED BY HIS [illegible] REFUSAL TO [illegible] WITH LEFTWING [illegible]

SECRET

SECRET

(PAGE THREE)

SUPPORT ON THE CONFIDENCE VOTE MORO'S POSITION IS FIRMER BECAUSE OF THIS AND BECAUSE OF THE VATICAN'S PRESSURE ON CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC RIGHTWINGERS NOT TO BREAK PARTY UNITY. (CONF)

7. CUBA: THE CASTRO REGIME SEEMS INTENT ON CULTIVATING AFRICAN COUNTRIES AS WAY OF LESSENING ITS ISOLATION FROM THE FREE WORLD. AN EMBASSY IN TANGANYIKA INDICATES THIS. IN ADDITION, CUBA HAS, DURING THE PAST MONTH, EXPANDED CONTACTS WITH NINE COUNTRIES SOUTH OF THE SAHARA. THERE IS ALSO REASON TO SUSPECT AFRICANS GOING TO CUBA ON SCHOLARSHIPS ARE GETTING TRAINING IN GUERRILLA WARFARE TECHNIQUES.

8. UK://BRITISH FOREIGN POLICY UNDER THE DOUGLAS-HOME GOVERNMENT INCREASINGLY FOCUSED ON KEEPING THE EAST-WEST DIALOGUE OPEN AND IMPROVING RELATIONS WITH WEST GERMANY. BOTH SIR ALEX AND FOREIGN SECRETARY BUTLER ESPECIALLY DETERMINED TO KEEP EXPLORING AREAS POSSIBLE AGREEMENT WITH MOSCOW -- A POLICY WHICH PAID OFF HANDSOMELY FOR CONSERVATIVES IN ELECTIONS OF 1955 AND 1959. MAIN OBJECTIVE -- BUTLER'S RECENT VISIT, BONN WAS TO SOUND OUT GERMAN REACTION TO SUCH BRITISH INITIATIVES.//

9. BRITISH GUIANA: JAGAN AND HIS LIEUTENANTS HAVE BEEN ATTACKING

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SECRET

INFO (PAGE FOUR) 90407

THE UK AND US IN INCREASINGLY VITRIOLIC TERMS. HIS PARTY IS PARALYZED BY INTERNAL DIVISIONS AND IS UNDECIDED WHETHER TO CONTEST THE PRE-INDEPENDENCE ELECTIONS SET FOR NEXT YEAR OR TRY TO BLOCK THEM BY RESORTING TO VIOLENCE. OPPOSITION PARTIES, MEANWHILE HAVE DONE LITTLE TO COOPERATE AGAINST JAGAN BEYOND REACHING A TENTATIVE AGREEMENT NOT TO ATTACK EACH OTHER PUBLICLY.

10. FRANCE: PARIS IS TRYING TO PROMOTE TRADE WITH COMMUNIST CHINA BY ENCOURAGING PRIVATE FIRMS TO DEVELOP NEW MARKETS THERE. THERE ARE BUILT IN LIMITATIONS TO THE EXTENT THAT FRENCH-CHINESE TRADE CAN GROW. COMPLEMENTARY PRODUCTS ARE FEW, AND CREDIT PROBLEMS CONTINUE TO LIMIT PURCHASES BY CHINESE WHO SEEM PRIMARILY INTERESTED IN OBTAINING FRENCH TECHNICAL SKILLS. PARIS INTEREST IN CHINESE TRADE AND EXPANDED CULTURAL CONTACTS WITH PEIPING HAVE STIMULATED SPECULATION THAT SOME SORT OF DIPLOMATIC RECOGNITION IS IN THE OFFING. THIS IS STOUTLY DENIED AT ALL LEVELS OF FRENCH GOVERNMENT.

11. FINLAND: FOR THE SECOND TIME IN FOUR MONTHS FINLAND IS GOING THROUGH A CABINET CRISIS BROUGHT ON BY DISAGREEMENT WITHIN THE RULING COALITION OVER DOMESTIC LEGISLATION. A NON-POLITICAL GOVERNMENT

RELEASING OFFICER — COORDINATING OFFICERS — AUTHENTICATING OFFICER

SECRET

9640

OF CIVIL SERVANTS, HEADED BY ECONOMIST REINO LEHTO, HAS BEEN APPOINTED TO SERVE UNTIL THE PRESENT CONTROVERSY IS RESOLVED. THE ALTERNATIVE SOLUTIONS SEEM LIMITED TO AGRARIAN MINORITY GOVERNMENT, RECONSTITUTION OF AGRARIAN-DOMINATED COALITION OR AS A LAST RESORT, GENERAL ELECTIONS. WHATEVER THE OUTCOME, PRESIDENT KEKKONEN DESIRE (CONTINUE) TO IMPROVE RELATIONS. MOSCOW CAME OUT AGAIN DURING HIS TRIP TO THE USSR.

12. SOUTH KOREA: PRESIDENT PAK CHONG-HUI'S DOMINATION OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY INAUGURATED ON 17 DEC UNDER SOUTH KOREA'S NEW CONSTITUTIONAL REGIME MAY TRANSFER POLITICAL INFIGHTING TO A NEW ARENA. THE CONTROVERSIAL FORMER SECURITY CHIEF KIM CHONG-PIL CONTROLS THE PARTY APPARATUS, AND HIS MANY ENEMIES ARE LIKELY TO TRY TO USE THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESSES TO TRY TO WREST POWER FROM HIM. PRESIDENT PAK STILL BACKS KIM, HOWEVER, AND THEY AND THEIR COHORTS WILL CONTINUE TO MAKE THE GOVERNMENT'S MAJOR DECISIONS. THE CABINET HEADED BY CHOE TU-SON APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN CHOSEN WITH A MIND TO BALANCING FACTIONAL AND SECTIONAL INTERESTS AND FOR AN ABILITY TO CARRY OUT, RATHER THAN FORMULATE POLICY. WITH ELECTIONS OVER, THE REGIME IS

14-00000

CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

SECRET

INDEX
NO INDEX
FILE IN CS FILE NO.

ROUTING
1 2
3 4
5 6

TO

FROM: DIRECTOR

CONF:

INFO:

ROUTINE

TO INFO CITE DIR 90407

(PAGE SIX)

LIKELY TO SPEED DECISIONS ON MANY OUTSTANDING QUESTIONS. A STAGNANT ECONOMY BESET BY INFLATION IS THE MOST PRESSING ONE. DISCONTENT WITH RISING PRICES EXTENDS INTO THE ARMED FORCES. PAK IS ALSO ANXIOUS TO CONCLUDE THE TEN-YEAR OLD NEGOTIATIONS FOR A NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS WITH JAPAN. (CONF)

13. TURKEY: THE THREE-WEEK OLD CABINET CRISIS APPEARS TO BE APPROACHING A CLIMAX FOLLOWING THE FAILURE OF BOTH MAJOR PARTIES TO BRING MINOR PARTIES INTO COALITION ARRANGEMENTS. ONLY A COALITION BETWEEN THESE TWO, PRIME MINISTER INONU'S REPUBLICAN PEOPLE'S PARTY AND THE JUSTICE PARTY, OR A "NATIONAL COALITION" OF ALL POLITICAL GROUPS, REMAINS TO BE TRIED. DESPITE THE DEEP DIFFERENCES, AN ASSOCIATION BETWEEN THE TWO MAY PROVE FEASIBLE, FOR THE POLITICIANS FEAR THAT EXTENDING THE CRISIS MUCH LONGER MIGHT PROVOKE MILITARY INTERVENTION. (CONF)

14. CONGO: // THE ADOULA REGIME'S POSITION REMAINS PRECARIOUS ITS EXTREME LEFTIST OPPONENTS JOINED IN A "COMMITTEE OF NATIONAL LIBERATION" (CNL) CONTINUE TO PLOT AGAINST IT FROM THEIR BRAZZAVILLE BASE THOUGH SOMEWHAT CRIPPLED BY LEOPOLDVILLE'S EXPULSION OF THEIR SOVIET

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COORDINATING OFFICERS

SECRET

AUTHENTICATING OFFICER

(PAGE SEVEN)

EMBASSY CONTACTS. THE EXILES HAVE SENT EMISSARIES ABROAD TO SEEK FUNDS AND ARMS. THEIR PLANS REPORTEDLY INCLUDE ASSASSINATION OF [illegible] LEOPOLDVILLE LEADERS, AN "INVASION" OF THE CONGO, AND INSTIGATION OF A COUP BY THE CONGO ARMY. THE WEAKNESS OF THE LEOPOLDVILLE REGIME, ESPECIALLY THE QUESTIONABLE RELIABILITY OF GENERAL MOBUTU'S ARMY, CLEARLY ENHANCES THE CNL PROSPECTS. LAST MONTH MOBUTU AND SURETE CHIEF NENDAKA, THE REGIME'S TWO KEYSTONES, WERE WAYLAYED BY SOLDIERS AND NEARLY KILLED. STUDENT AGITATION MAY BECOME A FACTOR IN VIEW OF THE CLOSE CONNECTIONS TO STUDENT GROUPS OF TWO HIGH OFFICIALS RECENTLY OUSTED -- FOREIGN MINISTER MABIKA-KALANDA AND LONDON CHARGE THOMAS KANZA. IN THE NEWEST DELIBERATIONS TOWARD WRITING A CONSTITUTION PROVINCIAL VOICES DESIRING A LOOSE ARRANGEMENT APPEAR STRONGER THAN SUPPORTERS OF ADOULA'S PUSH FOR A STRONG CENTRAL GOVERNMENT. //

15. LAOS: // RIGHT-WING AND NEUTRALIST MILITARY FORCES, ENCOURAGED BY RECENT SUCCESSES IN CENTRAL AND NORTHERN LAOS, ARE CONSIDERING [illegible] INITIATIVES. THEY ARE PLANNING MOVES AIMED AT CAPTURING [illegible] BESIEGED XIENG KHOUANG [illegible] AND FURTHER SOUTH OPERATIONS AGAINST COMMUNIST SUPPLY ROUTES FROM NORTH VIETNAM. COMMUNISTS CONCENTRATING

14-00000

CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

SECRET

FROM: DIRECTOR

INFO CITE DIR 90407

(PAGE EIGHT)

HAVE RECAPTURED THE KEY ROAD JUNCTION OF LAK SAO, HOWEVER, AND RETAIN THE CAPABILITY TO MAKE SHARP COUNTERMOVES ELSEWHERE. THE CONTINUING MILITARY NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN PATHET LAO AND NEUTRALIST FACTIONS HAVE BEEN MARKED BY ACRIMONIOUS EXCHANGES, BUT THE PATHET LAO HAVE EXPRESSED NEW INTEREST IN ARRANGING A MEETING BETWEEN THEIR CHIEF PRINCE SOUPHANNOUVONG AND PREMIER SOUVVANNA PHOUMA TO ARRANGE FOR FULL PATHET LAO PARTICIPATION IN THE COALITION GOVERNMENT. COUP RUMORS, MOSTLY CENTERING ON PLANS BY RIGHT-WING MILITARY ELEMENTS ALLIED WITH THE SANANIKONE CLAN, CONTINUE TO CIRCULATE IN VIENTIANE.//

JAMES W. FITZGERALD

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